

WE CLAIM:

1. A process for the estimation of volatile substances which comprises in the steps of:
 - i) heating distilled water in a flask to a first temperature,
 - ii) adding the sample to be tested into said heated water,
 - iii) closing the flask,
 - iv) maintaining the flask containing the sample at a second temperature lower than said first temperature,
 - v) purging with air,
 - vi) drawing the volatile vapours and subjecting it to analysis.
2. A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein a volatilization wherein a volatilization of the volatile compounds is carried out at low pressure.
3. A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein a volatilization of the volatile compounds is carried out in vacuum.
4. A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the first temperature is the boiling temperature of water.
5. A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the heating of water is carried out at atmospheric pressure.

6. A process for the estimation of volatile substances substantially as herein described and illustrated.
7. An apparatus for the estimation of volatile substances comprising a flask having a stopper adapted to fit and close the mouth of said flask, a closure member for closing the mouth of said stopper.
8. An apparatus as claimed in claim 7 wherein said stopper is a hollow member.
9. An apparatus as claimed in claim 7 wherein said stopper comprises a lower section of a conical section and an upper section of a frusto conical section.
10. An apparatus for the estimation of volatile substances substantially as herein described and illustrated.